



Fact Sheet

California Emergency Management Agency

INCIDENT TELECOMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT

with

MOBILE EARTH STATION EQUIPMENT (OASIS)

ICS: NOT TYPED



The California earth stations program was created when the legislature funded the Operational Area Satellite Information System (OASIS) program in the early 1990's. That action placed a fixed earth station at each of the 58 counties and other key sites. The former OES initially acquired four trailer-mounted earth stations, a trailer-mounted hub and a hub at Sacramento with a backup hub at Los Alamitos in Southern California. This has now expanded to two additional trailers, one for each Mutual-Aid Region and being constructed and deployed are six Gateway Interoperability vehicles with OASIS presence in addition to a radio interoperability switch {see MIGU Fact Sheet}. Three additional trailer units are operational with California's DOT, CALTRANS.

These mobile earth stations have been of great value to remote fire Incident Command Centers in the rugged foothills and mountains, as well as a myriad of other applications and events. All portable units can provide for 23 VoIP convertible to analog telephone lines and a digital data drop on a Wide Area Network which allows for Internet access and Geographical Information Systems (GIS). A Video Teleconferencing & Video features are being added presently. The Internet connection gives at least DSL up/down link speed and includes wired and WiFi access points. Each of the mobile units have self-contained power or can use 2 110-volt 20-amp circuits when available for 'shore' power.

Each telephone line offers five-digit dialing to any other OASIS telephone drop which includes every Operational Area (county) in the state. The system also provides access to the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) through redundant access points. Additionally each trailer is equipped with an 800MHz Lo Power repeater which is also tied to the phone system. Frequencies are selectable on NPSPAC channels. The telephones that result provide a user-friendly communications where needed, while the overall system provides telephones between Operational Area Emergency Operations Centers, the State Regional Operations Centers and the State Operations Center.

Because these units communicate on microwave frequencies with a satellite, an unobstructed view in a designated path and elevation is needed - that means totally clear! The required elevation is +/- 45 degrees with the path to the south +/- 15 degrees (150-180 degrees Magnetic).

These units are coordinated by Cal EMA Headquarters and ordered through the State Mutual Aid system. Contact the Cal EMA Telecommunications Duty Officer via the California State Warning Center at 916-845-8911